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(54) Title: SUTURE MANIPULATING AND CUTTING IMPLEMENT

(57) **Abstract:** An implement for manipulating a knotted suture during a surgical procedure, includes an elongated shaft having a proximal end engageable by the user for manipulating the instrument, and a distal end engageable with the knotted suture to be manipulated. The distal end of the elongated shaft has an end face formed with a recess for receiving the knot of the suture. The distal end of the elongated shaft is formed with an open slot starting from a location spaced from the end face and leading to the recess in the end face, such as to enable the knotted suture to be introduced into the slot and the recess by effecting a sidewise movement. The implement further includes a tubular cutter member enclosing the elongated shaft and formed with an annular cutting edge engageable with a suture in the open slot of the shaft upon movement of the elongated shaft with respect to the tubular cutter member, or by vice-versa.



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